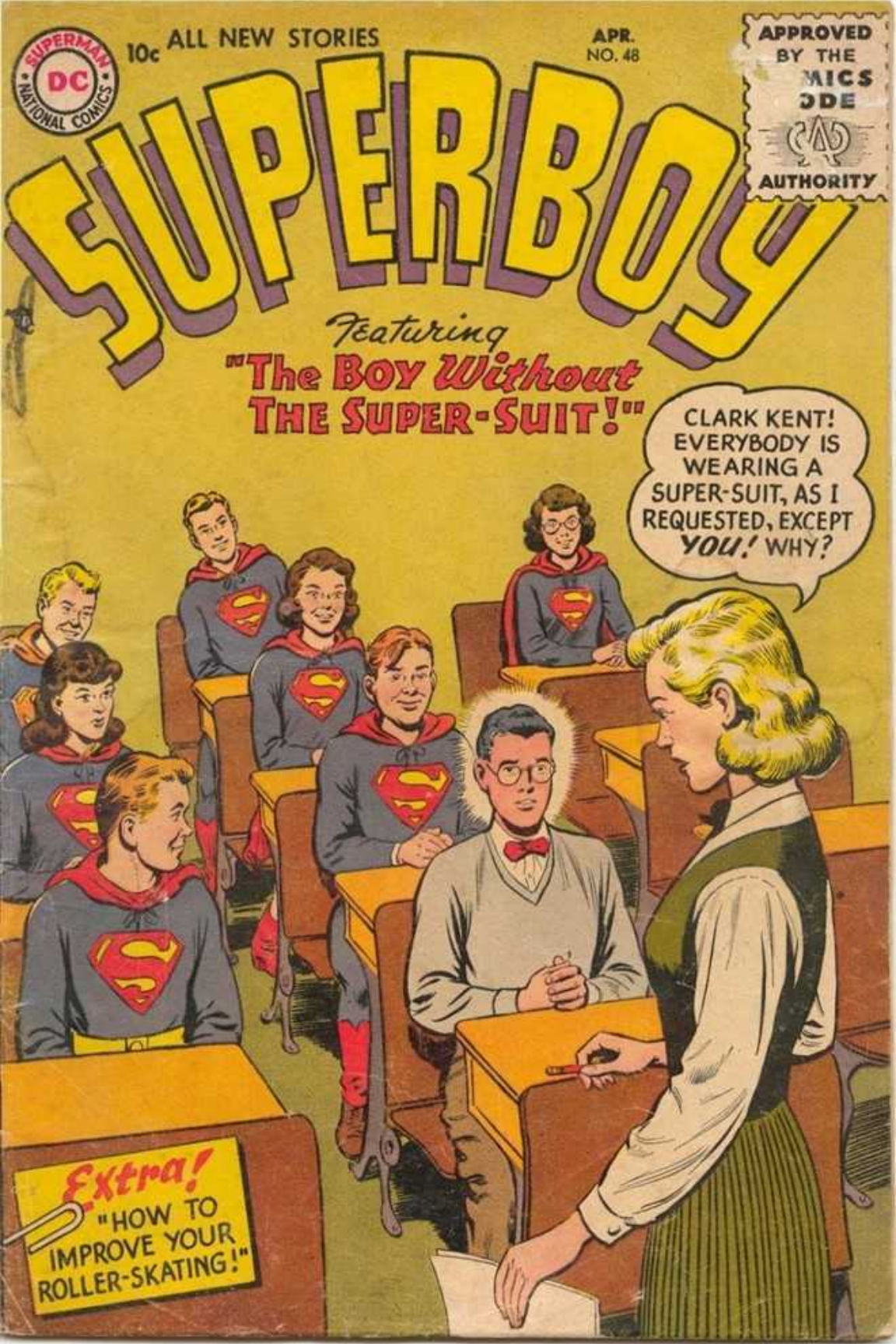
SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS
10c ALL NEW STORIES
APR. NO. 48
APPROVED BY THE MICS ODE AUTHORITY
SUPERBOY
Featuring
"The Boy Without The Super-Suit!"
CLARK KENT! EVERYBODY IS WEARING A SUPER-SUIT, AS I REQUESTED, EXCEPT YOU! WHY?
Extra! "HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR ROLLER-SKATING!"

SUPERBOY

The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN WHEN HE WAS A BOY

CAN YOU EVER IMAGINE KINDLY JONATHAN KENT TURNING AGAINST **SUPERBOY**, HIS OWN ADOPTED SON, WHO HAS DWELLED IN HIS HOME AND HEART SINCE BABYHOOD? YOU WILL BE STILL MORE SHOCKED TO SEE THE BOY OF STEEL FALL INTO A KRYPTONITE TRAP PREPARED BY HIS FOSTER FATHER! ALL THIS AND MORE HEARTBREAKING EPISODES OCCUR ON THE DAY OF...

DAD KENT'S DELUSIONS

I'LL KEEP YOU A PRISONER, WEAKENED BY KRYPTONITE RAYS, **SUPERBOY**, UNTIL I FIND MY MISSING BOY--CLARK KENT!

BUT, DAD! **I'M** CLARK KENT, YOUR SON--DON'T YOU REMEMBER? WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO YOU?... (GULP!)

ONE DAY IN SMALLVILLE, IT SEEMS THAT JONATHAN KENT, WHO IS SECRETLY THE FOSTER FATHER OF **SUPERBOY**, IS IN TROUBLE!

I--I HAVE TO DRAW OUT MY LIFE SAVINGS! THE UNDERWORLD WILL CHARGE ME PLENTY TO GIVE ME WHAT I WANT!

WHY IS THIS UPRIGHT CITIZEN DOING BUSINESS LATER WITH "BLACKMARKET" BOLTON, NOTORIOUS FENCE?

OKAY, YOU CAN USE THIS CHUNK OF KRYPTONITE I FOUND! IT'S THE STUFF THAT WEAKENS **SUPERBOY**! BUT ALL YOUR DOUGH ONLY **RENTS** IT FOR ONE DAY--I'LL PICK IT UP TONIGHT!

GOOD ENOUGH! BY THEN, I'LL SETTLE MY SCORE WITH **SUPERBOY**!

SUPERBOY, No. 48, April, 1956 issue. Published monthly, with the exception of Feb., May, Aug., and Nov., by NATIONAL COMICS PUBLICATIONS, INC., 2nd and DICKEY STREETS, SPARTA, ILL. Editorial and Executive offices, 480 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, N. Y. Whitney Ellsworth, Editor. ENTERED AS SECOND CLASS MATTER at the post office at Sparta, Ill. under the act of March 3, 1879. Yearly subscription in the U. S. $1.00 including postage. Foreign, $2.00 in American funds.
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Printed in U.S.A.

CAN THIS STARTLING THING BE?...SUPERBOY'S OWN FATHER WORKING AGAINST HIM...?

LUCKILY, MA KENT IS AWAY VISITING RELATIVES! SHE MIGHT BE WORRIED THAT I CAN'T HANDLE SUPERBOY! BUT THIS KRYPTONITE TRAP WILL GET HIM!

LATER, WHEN SUPERBOY ARRIVES...

I NEED A CERTAIN TOOL FOR MY EXPERIMENT IN THE GARAGE... HEY! I--I FEEL WEAK SUDDENLY! GOSH, THERE MUST BE KRYPTONITE IN THE HOUSE!

HA, HA! KRYPTONITE'S RAYS ARE THE ONLY THING ON EARTH THAT CAN ROB SUPERBOY OF HIS STRENGTH! I'LL CAPTURE HIM WHEN HE COLLAPSES!

BUT LIVING IN THE HOUSE MANY YEARS, SUPERBOY KNOWS IT CONTAINS LEAD PIPES AND...

BEFORE ALL MY STRENGTH EBBS AWAY... (GASP!)... I'LL RIP THOSE LEAD PIPES LOOSE AND FORM A SHIELD! I TURNED OFF THAT WATER VALVE!

(GASP!)... LEAD STOPS KRYPTONITE RAYS! NOW I CAN SUMMON UP ENOUGH POWER TO GET OUT THE WINDOW!

HE GOT AWAY! BUT I'LL GET SUPERBOY LATER, AND MAKE HIM PAY FOR WHAT HE DID TO ME!

WHAT DOES DAD KENT MEAN? HOW CAN HE THINK HIS OWN SON IS HIS "ENEMY"?

AS FOR PUZZLED SUPERBOY, DAD KENT IS THE LAST PERSON IN THE WORLD HE WOULD SUSPECT OF HAVING PLANNED THIS TRAP!

UNSUSPICIOUS OF HIS FATHER, SUPERBOY ATTACHES NO IMPORTANCE TO THE DEPARTURE OF DAD KENT...

UNKNOWN TO DAD, SOMEONE ELSE MUST HAVE CREPT INTO THE HOUSE AND PLANTED THE KRYPTONITE! WHO'S AFTER ME? I CAN'T GO BACK TO GET HIM, SO I'LL WATCH IF HE SNEAKS OUT!

I'LL BRING THE KRYPTONITE TO THE STORE NOW!

EVIDENTLY DAD KNOWS NOTHING OF THE PROWLER! BUT NOW I'LL USE MY X-RAY VISION THROUGH THE HOUSE TO SPOT HIM!

LATER, A BAFFLED SUPERBOY FLIES AWAY...
I SAW NO PROWLER IN THE HOUSE AT ALL-- AND NO KRYPTONITE! SOMEHOW, HE SLIPPED AWAY! I'LL WARN DAD ABOUT ALL THIS AT HIS STORE!
LOOK OUT, SUPERBOY! DAD KENT HAS LAID ANOTHER TRAP THERE FOR YOU!
THERE ARE NO LEAD PIPES IN THE STORE! SUPERBOY WON'T ESCAPE THIS TIME! HA, HA!
KITCHENWARE
OHH-H-H! KRYPTONITE AGAIN...(GASP!)
ROPE SALE
NO LEAD AROUND! BUT LUCKILY, DAD SELLS ROPE! AND MY SUPER-BREATH ISN'T AFFECTED BY KRYPTONITE! IF I CAN JUST BLOW THE ROPE AND MAKE IT CATCH ON A BRANCH OF THAT TREE OUTSIDE...
HARDWARE SPECIALS
ROPE SALE
WITH HIS LAST SHRED OF STRENGTH, THE BOY OF STEEL PULLS HIMSELF OUT OF THE TRAP...
OOF! JUST IN TIME! THE FURTHER I GET AWAY FROM THE RAYS, THE MORE MY MUSCLES RESPOND! I'LL GET TO THE TREE AND RECUPERATE! BUT WHO'S DOING THIS TO ME ?
ABRUPTLY, A SUPER-SHOCK FOR SUPERBOY!
I'LL CHASE YOU AND STILL GET YOU WITH THIS KRYPTONITE!
GREAT SCOTT! DAD KENT HIMSELF? BUT--BUT THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE!
ONLY ONE LOGICAL EXPLANATION OCCURS TO THE BOY OF STEEL...
OKAY, YOU'VE HAD YOUR...ER...FUN! NOW PUT THAT KRYPTONITE AWAY! ISN'T THIS A RATHER DRASTIC JOKE TO PLAY ON ME?
IT'S NO JOKE, SUPERBOY! I'LL KEEP YOU TREED, UNLESS YOU RETURN MY SON, CLARK KENT! AND DON'T TRY TO DENY YOU DID AWAY WITH HIM THIS MORNING!..
3

"RIGHT AFTER BREAKFAST, MY BOY CLARK WENT TO HIS ROOM..."
WELL, I HAVE A BUSY DAY AHEAD IN MY GARAGE WORK-SHOP, DAD! I'LL CHANGE CLOTHES NOW!
"BUT CLARK DIDN'T RETURN! INSTEAD..."
GOODBYE TO CLARK KENT! YOU WON'T SEE HIM FOR QUITE A WHILE!
SUPERBOY! WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
"RUSHING TO MY SON'S ROOM, I SAW THE AWFUL TRUTH!"
CLARK'S GONE! SUPERBOY SPIRITED HIM AWAY! THAT'S WHAT HE MEANT BY THAT THREAT! CLARK... MY BOY... WHERE ARE YOU?
ALLVILLE
NEEDLESS TO SAY, SUPERBOY IS THUNDERSTRUCK AT HIS DAD'S TWISTED STORY...
GOOD HEAVENS! SOMETHING HAS AFFECTED DAD'S MIND! HE MIS-INTERPRETED EVERYTHING AS IF...AS IF HE THINKS THAT CLARK KENT AND I ARE...TWO DIFFERENT PEOPLE!
YES--DAD KENT IS UNDER A QUEER DELUSION THAT MAKES HIM FORGET HIS ONE SON HAS TWO DIFFERENT GUISES!
WHERE DID YOU HIDE MY BOY CLARK? RETURN HIM TO ME--OR I'LL CLIMB UP AND GET YOU WITH THIS KRYPTONITE!
BEFORE THE CONCENTRATED RAYS AGAIN RENDER HIM HELPLESS, SUPERBOY FLEES!
GOT TO GET COMPLETELY OUT OF RANGE--WAY HIGH UP! GOSH, THIS IS AWFUL!
4

POOR SUPERBOY! THIS IS CERTAINLY THE WORST MOMENT OF YOUR LIFE!
MY DAD... MY OWN DAD... (CHOKE!)... DROVE ME AWAY! BUT OF COURSE IT ISN'T HIS FAULT! WHAT CAUSED DAD'S TWISTED DELUSION? I'LL FLY HIGH AND KEEP WATCH ON HIM IN THE STORE BELOW, FOR ANY CLUES!
AN ALARMING CLUE SOON COMES, WHEN SUDDEN DANGER ARISES IN THE STORE!
HMM, FIRE, EH? WELL, I'LL JUST WALK THROUGH IT AND HIDE THIS KRYPTONITE!
FROM THE AIR, SUPERBOY'S TELESCOPIC VISION SHOWS HIM DAD KENT'S AMAZING BEHAVIOR!
OMIGOSH! DAD HAS OTHER DELUSIONS! HE THINKS HE'S IMMUNE TO FIRE! YET I--I CAN'T FLY DOWN, WITH KRYPTONITE THERE! HOW CAN I SAVE HIM... FROM THE AIR?
ONLY A HEARTBEAT LATER, SUPERBOY IS BACK ABOVE DAD KENT'S STORE, PERFORMING AN INGENIOUS AERIAL RESCUE!
KENT'S GENERAL STORE
BULL'S-EYE! I AIMED THIS GIANT WATER PISTOL STRAIGHT INTO THE SKY-LIGHT, DOUSING THE FIRE BEFORE DAD WALKED INTO IT!
SSSSSSSSSS
A LIGHTNING IDEA SENDS THE BOY OF STEEL TO A JUNKYARD AT SUPER SPEED, WHERE...
THIS IS SAFELY OUT OF RANGE OF THE KRYPTONITE RAYS! USING SUPER PRESSURE, I CAN CONVERT THIS JUNK METAL INTO WHAT I NEED! AND THIS RAIN PUDDLE WILL COME IN HANDY TO FILL IT UP!
5

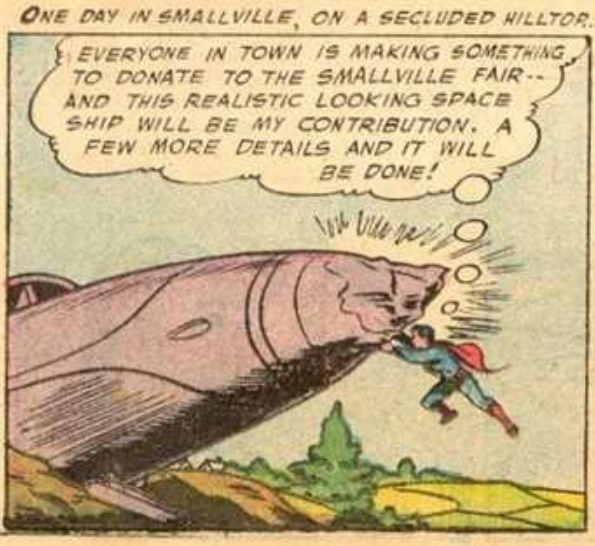
SOON, ON THE ROOF...
IS IT GOING TO RAIN SOME MORE? I'LL CLOSE THE SKYLIGHT, THEN HAVE A BREATH OF FRESH AIR UP HERE, WHILE BUSINESS IS SLOW!
THEN, AS DAD KENT IS SEIZED BY ANOTHER DELUSION...
A CUSTOMER GOING IN! I'LL GO DOWN THIS WAY, INTO THE FRONT DOOR!
KENT'S GENERAL STORE
OH NO! DAD IS WALKING OVER THE EDGE OF THE ROOF, UNAWARE THAT HE IS IN DANGER OF FALLING... (GULP!)
HELD OFF FROM DIRECT ACTION BY THE KRYPTONITE, SUPERBOY AGAIN SPEEDILY OBTAINS WHAT HE NEEDS AND...
GUESS I'LL DO SOME "FISHING" THIS TIME! I GOT A "BITE"!
THANK HEAVEN I--I DIDN'T LET THAT "FISH" GET AWAY! I'LL LOWER DAD TO THE GROUND SAFELY! IN HIS PRESENT DELUDED STATE, DAD WILL THINK HE HAS THE POWER OF "FLOATING" DOWN!
KENT'S GENERAL STORE
LATER...
BUT I MUST LEARN WHAT IS CAUSING DAD'S DELUSIONS! HE WON'T LISTEN TO HIS "ENEMY" SUPERBOY-- UNLESS CLARK IS "RETURNED"! HMM... DAD'S GOING HOME FOR LUNCH-- I'LL MEET HIM THERE!
DRUGS
SOON, AT HOME...
CLARK-- MY SON! YOU'RE BACK! HOW DID YOU ESCAPE FROM SUPERBOY'S CLUTCHES?
I'LL... ER... TELL YOU LATER, DAD! RIGHT NOW, TELL ME EXACTLY WHAT YOU DID THIS MORNING, AFTER GETTING UP?

"LET ME SEE... OH, YES! I FOUND THAT MY GLASSES HAD DROPPED TO THE FLOOR OVERNIGHT AND THE FRAMES WERE BROKEN, SO..."
I'LL FIX THEM WITH THE TOOLS IN THE GARAGE! CAN'T SEE WELL WITHOUT MY GLASSES!
OOF! I BUMPED INTO SOMETHING! I--I FEEL DIZZY!
DANGER! RADIOACTIVE MACHINE DON'T TOUCH
SO THAT'S IT! WITHOUT HIS GLASSES, DAD DIDN'T SEE MY WARNING SIGN IN THE WORKSHOP, WHERE I WAS DOING A DANGEROUS EXPERIMENT FOR A SCIENTIST!
DAD GOT A STRONG DOSE OF RADIOACTIVE RAYS THAT AFFECTED HIS BRAIN AND GAVE HIM ALL THOSE STRANGE DELUSIONS! THAT'S WHY AT BREAKFAST HE WAS CONFUSED, BELIEVING SUPERBOY AND CLARK KENT WERE TWO SEPARATE PERSONS!
WHEN DAD KENT LEAVES FOR THE STORE AGAIN...
HMM! IF I DEMONSTRATE MY SUPER POWERS NOW, DAD WILL KNOW I'M REALLY SUPERBOY!
YOU LIFT A CAR? RIDICULOUS, CLARK! HA, HA!
DAD! WATCH ME LIFT THE CAR WITH ONE FINGER!
OOF! MY--MY STRENGTH IS GONE! OMIGOSH, DAD HAD THE KRYPTONITE HIDDEN IN THE CAR!
SEE, SON? YOU'RE THE SAME WEAKLING YOU ALWAYS WERE! YOU'RE NOT SUPERBOY! HA, HA!
SUDDENLY, CLARK (SUPERBOY) KENT COLLAPSES AND...
(GASP!
YOU STRAINED YOURSELF, SON! NOW DON'T WORRY--YOU'LL BE SAFE FROM SUPERBOY WITH THE KRYPTONITE UNDER YOUR BED! JUST REST AND DON'T MOVE!
I COULDN'T MOVE IF I TRIED, WITH KRYPTONITE SO NEAR! UNWITTINGLY, DAD HAS PUT ME IN A REAL TRAP NOW...
(GULP!)

AFTER DAD KENT LEAVES FOR THE STORE, CLARK USES HIS SUPER WITS...
KRYPTONITE DOESN'T WEAKEN MY X-RAY VISION, SO I'LL USE IT TO BURN THROUGH THE FLOOR--AH! THE KRYPTONITE BROKE THROUGH INTO THE ROOM BELOW!
CRAWLING TO THE ROOF, CLARK GETS FURTHER AWAY FROM THE DAMAGING RAYS, UNTIL...
FREE! WHEW! NOW TO TRY TO BRING DAD BACK TO NORMAL BY SUBJECTING HIM TO SOME HARMLESS MENTAL SHOCK! HMM! I'LL TRY AN IDEA, AT THE STORE...
LATER, WHEN THERE ARE NO CUSTOMERS...
I'LL STEP OUT AND CHAT WITH THE BARBER NEXT DOOR... LAND SAKES! WHERE IS SMALLVILLE? THE--THE WHOLE TOWN VANISHED!... (GASP!)
I QUIETLY LIFTED AND FLEW THE WHOLE STORE HERE BEFORE! THAT SHOCKED DAD BACK TO NORMAL--HE KNOWS ME NOW!
SUPERBOY--MY SON! HELP ME! AM I LOST--OR IS SMALLVILLE LOST?
SUPERBOY EXPLAINS TO DAD KENT ON THE RETURN TRIP...
MY WORD! WHAT CRAZY DELUSIONS I HAD! BUT I'LL GO HOME AND GET RID OF THAT KRYPTONITE, SON!
AND I'LL MEET "FENCE" BOLTON AT HIS PLACE TONIGHT!
LATER... YOU WON'T RENT OUT THAT KRYPTONITE ANYMORE, TO BE USED AGAINST ME, BOLTON! IT'S JAIL FOR YOU, AFTER YOU RETURN KENT'S MONEY!
THAT NIGHT, THERE IS A HAPPY REUNION BETWEEN A FATHER AND HIS SONS--BOTH OF THEM!
I DROVE AND DUMPED THE KRYPTONITE TO THE BOTTOM OF A LAKE! COME AND EAT, SON!
WHICH SON DO YOU MEAN, DAD? SUPERBOY OR CLARK KENT? WELL, WE'LL BOTH SIT DOWN! HA, HA!
THE END

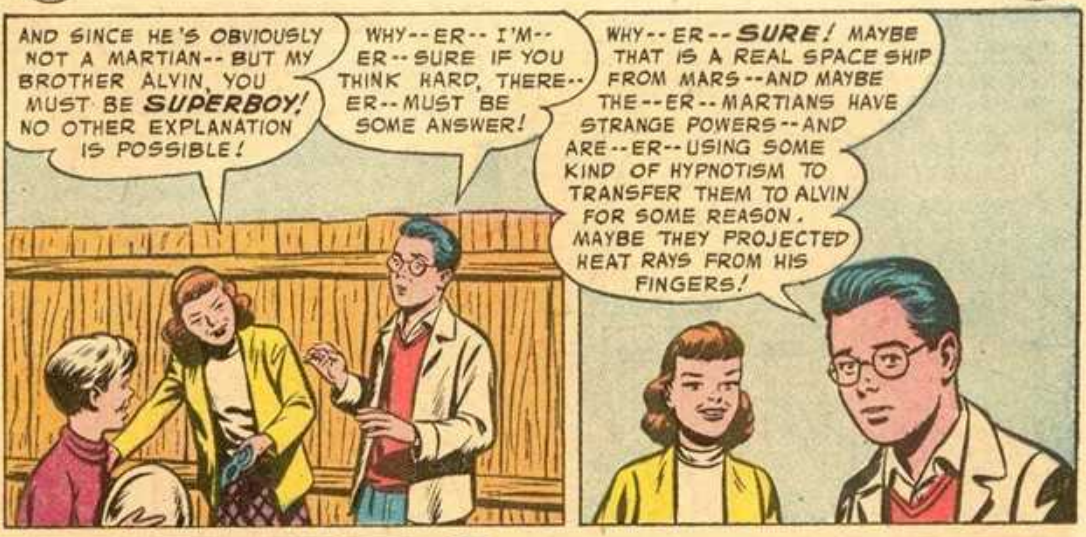
VARSITY VIC
SAY, VIC, DO YOU HAVE THE CORRECT TIME?
SURE. HOP IN!
B-BUT— WHERE ARE WE GOING?
I'LL BE RIGHT OUT!
IT'S FOUR O'CLOCK!
BUT WHY DID WE HAVE TO COME HERE FOR YOU TO FIND OUT?
BILL DRAKE BORROWED MY WATCH. HE LIVES HERE!
END

SUPERBOY
The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN WHEN HE WAS A BOY
FOR YEARS LANA LANG HAS ENVIED SUPERBOY HIS ABILITY TO FLY, HIS MIGHTY STRENGTH, HIS UNCANNY X-RAY VISION. NOW, IN THE STRANGEST STORY EVER TO TAKE PLACE IN SMALLVILLE, SHE FINDS HERSELF ABLE TO MATCH THE FEATS OF THE BOY OF STEEL IN THE AMAZING ADVENTURE...
LANA LANG'S SUPER POWERS!
CLARK THINKS HE'S FOOLING ME--FLYING TOGETHER WITH SUPERBOY-- BUT HE DOESN'T KNOW THAT I REALIZE THAT'S ONLY A DUMMY OF SUPERBOY-- AND CAN PROVE IT!
I HOPE LANA NEVER FINDS OUT THAT THIS IS ONLY A DUMMY OF SUPERBOY THAT I MADE. IF SHE DOES, THE SECRET OF MY IDENTITY IS LOST!


ONE DAY IN SMALLVILLE, ON A SECLUDED HILLTOP...
EVERYONE IN TOWN IS MAKING SOMETHING TO DONATE TO THE SMALLVILLE FAIR-- AND THIS REALISTIC LOOKING SPACE SHIP WILL BE MY CONTRIBUTION. A FEW MORE DETAILS AND IT WILL BE DONE!

MINUTES LATER, AS THE BOY OF STEEL WORKS ON HIS SURPRISE GIFT...
BONG BONG
GOSH-- I WAS SO ABSORBED I FORGOT THE TIME. I'M SUPPOSED TO MEET LANA IN MY IDENTITY OF CLARK KENT AT TWO. I'D BETTER HURRY NOW.. AND ADD THE FINISHING TOUCHES LATER!

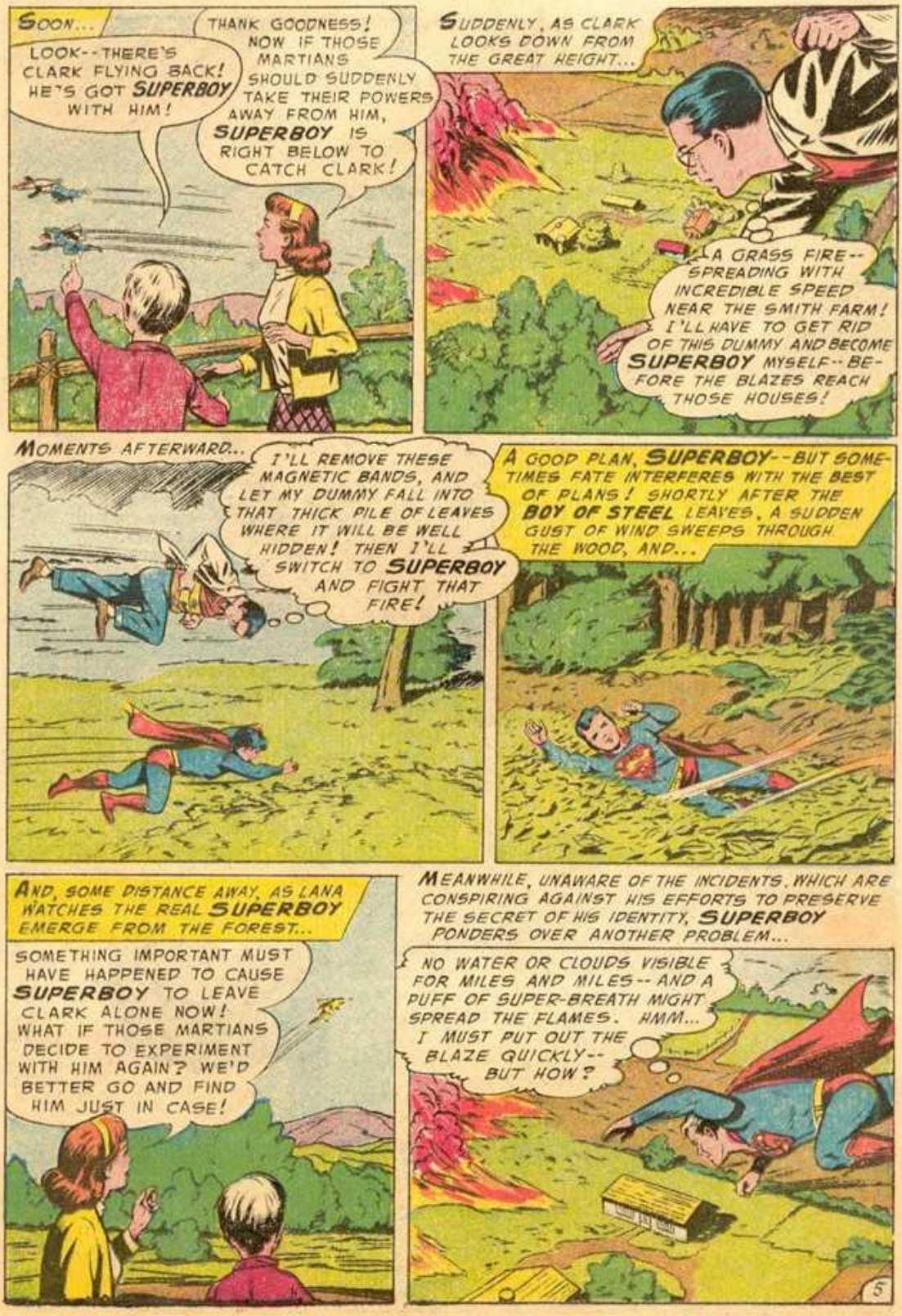
PRESENTLY, WHEN CLARK JOINS LANA...
GOODNESS, CLARK-- DO YOU SEE THAT SPACE SHIP? WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF IT?
I CAN'T REVEAL TO HER WHAT SUPERBOY HASN'T YET TOLD ANYONE, SO I'D BETTER PRETEND IGNORANCE-- LEST SHE SUSPECT THE SECRET OF MY IDENTITY--AS SHE HAS-- SO OFTEN IN THE PAST!
WHAT--ER-- DO YOU MAKE OF IT?
I DON'T KNOW. IT'S SO REALISTIC--MAYBE IT REALLY IS A SPACE SHIP-- FROM MARS OR SOMEWHERE!
SUDDENLY...
LOOK OUT, YOU TWO! I'M A MARTIAN! ONE FALSE MOVE AND I'LL BLAST YOU WITH MY RAY GUN!
HA-HA! DON'T BE SCARED, CLARK! IT'S JUST MY KID BROTHER, ALVIN-- IN HIS NEW MARTIAN COSTUME!
AT THAT INSTANT...
OH, YEAH? JUST WATCH MY SUPER-BLASTER KNOCK THAT TREE OVER!
GOOD GODFREY! THAT 'COPTER-- PROBABLY CAUGHT IN A DOWN CURRENT--ABOUT TO CRASH INTO THAT TREE TOP! I DAREN'T SWITCH TO SUPERBOY WITH LANA RIGHT HERE, SO...
...I'LL JUST HAVE TO USE THE HEAT OF MY X-RAY VISION TO BURN THE TREE DOWN!
L-LOOK! MY BLASTER! IT--IT WORKED!
YES--EITHER YOU REALLY ARE A MARTIAN--AND THAT BLASTER WORKS--OR CLARK IS SUPERBOY.. AND BURNED THAT TREE DOWN WITH THE HEAT OF HIS X-RAY VISION TO SAVE THE 'COPTER!
2


AND SINCE HE'S OBVIOUSLY NOT A MARTIAN-- BUT MY BROTHER ALVIN, YOU MUST BE SUPERBOY! NO OTHER EXPLANATION IS POSSIBLE!
WHY--ER--I'M--ER--SURE IF YOU THINK HARD, THERE--ER--MUST BE SOME ANSWER!
WHY--ER--SURE! MAYBE THAT IS A REAL SPACE SHIP FROM MARS--AND MAYBE THE--ER--MARTIANS HAVE STRANGE POWERS--AND ARE--ER--USING SOME KIND OF HYPNOTISM TO TRANSFER THEM TO ALVIN FOR SOME REASON. MAYBE THEY PROJECTED HEAT RAYS FROM HIS FINGERS!

ALL RIGHT, YOU JUST TURN YOUR BACK TO THAT TRASH BASKET--SO YOU CAN'T SET FIRE TO THE PAPERS WITH YOUR X-RAY VISION IF YOU ARE SUPERBOY, AND ALVIN WILL POINT HIS FINGERS AT THE BASKET. YOUR STORY WILL MAKE SENSE IF HE CAN MAKE THE PAPERS GO UP IN FLAMES!
WHY--ER--I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT!
LET'S SEE YOU GET OUT OF THIS SPOT, CLARK!
WITH MY BACK TURNED, HOW CAN I POSSIBLY--WAIT--THAT RAY GUN! ALVIN DROPPED IT IN HIS EXCITEMENT! I CAN PICK IT UP, MOVING SO FAST I'M NOT SEEN, AND THEN--WELL--WHEN I'M THROUGH WITH IT, I CAN BUY A NEW ONE AND LET HIM FIND IT!

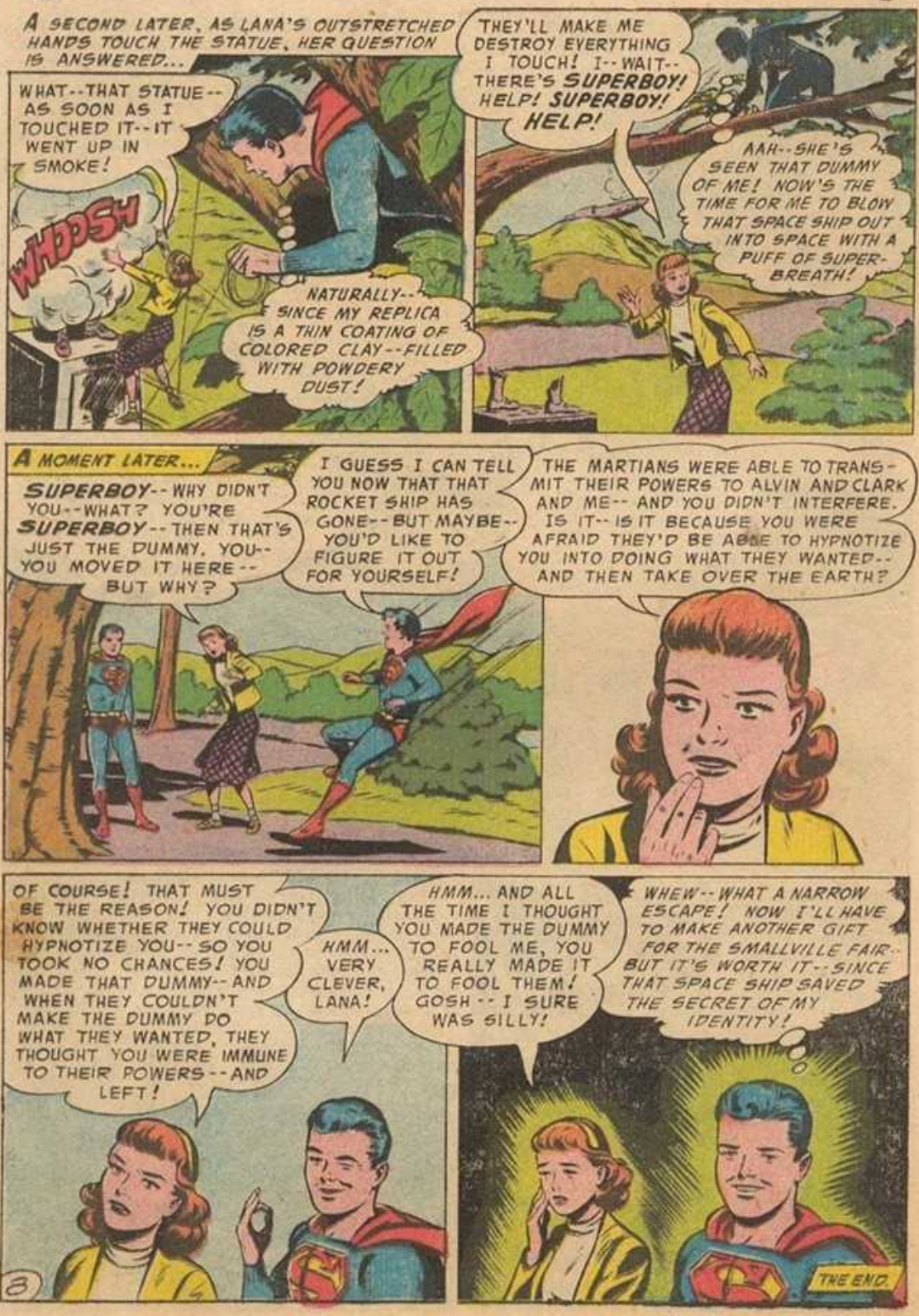
MOMENTS LATER, AFTER CLARK HAS PICKED UP THE GUN...
I'LL JUST SMOOTH IT OUT, THEN ROLL IT INTO A CIRCULAR SHAPE, AND POLISH IT AS SUPER-SMOOTH AS I CAN!
SECONDS AFTERWARD...
NOW THAT I'VE TRANSFORMED THE GUN INTO A METALLIC MIRROR, I CAN SEE THE WASTE-BASKET--AND SINCE THE MIRROR IS POLISHED THOUSANDS OF TIMES SMOOTHER THAN ANY ORDINARY MIRROR, IT WILL REFLECT THE HEAT OF THE SUN'S RAYS A THOUSANDFOLD STRONGER AND IGNITE THE PAPER!

AND, AS ALVIN LEVELS HIS FINGER AT THE WASTE-BASKET...
IT--IT WORKS! WHAT CLARK SAID MUST BE TRUE! I--I CAN BURN THINGS BY POINTING MY FINGERS--LIKE THE MARTIANS!
WELL--I--ER--GUESS I WAS RIGHT.
MAYBE--BUT THERE'S ANOTHER POSSIBILITY!
IF YOU ARE SUPERBOY, YOU'RE CLEVER ENOUGH TO HAVE FIGURED OUT A WAY TO HAVE BURNED THAT PAPER EVEN WITH YOUR BACK TURNED! AND WHY SHOULD THE MARTIANS PICK JUST ON ALVIN--JUST AT THAT SECOND?
HMM... LANA STILL ISN'T CONVINCED! I'LL HAVE TO TRY SOMETHING MORE DRASTIC!
MOMENTS AFTERWARD...
W-WHERE ARE YOU GOING, CLARK--AND WHY HAVE YOU GOT THAT FUNNY EXPRESSION?
EEEK! LOOK! CLARK--HE--HE'S WALKING ON AIR!
I--I DON'T KNOW. I--ER--FEEL STRANGE, AS IF SOMEONE'S MAKING ME WALK.
HELP! HELP! GET ME DOWN!
HE--HE'S FLYING! IF HE WAS SUPERBOY, HE'D NEVER TAKE A CHANCE DOING THAT ON HIS OWN POWER--NO MATTER WHAT THE REASON! HE--HE MUST BE RECEIVING POWERS FROM THE MARTIANS IN THAT SPACE SHIP!
A LITTLE LATER, HAVING FLOWN OUT OF SIGHT, CLARK IS BUSILY AT WORK, UNOBSERVED...
SMALLVILLE DUMPING GROUND
I'LL FASHION A REALISTIC DUMMY OF SUPERBOY--AND THEN MAGNETIZE A FEW BARS OF METAL!
SOON... WHEN I PUT MY JACKET ON, LANA WILL NEVER KNOW I'M WEARING THESE MAGNETIZED BARS--AND--IF I FLY ABOVE THAT METAL MODEL OF SUPERBOY, IT WILL FOLLOW BENEATH ME, ATTRACTED BY MAGNETISM!
SMALL DUMP GROU

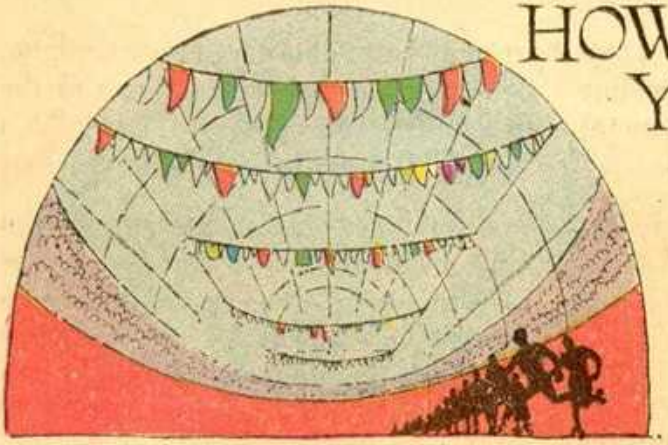

SOON...
LOOK--THERE'S CLARK FLYING BACK! HE'S GOT SUPERBOY WITH HIM!
THANK GOODNESS! NOW IF THOSE MARTIANS SHOULD SUDDENLY TAKE THEIR POWERS AWAY FROM HIM, SUPERBOY IS RIGHT BELOW TO CATCH CLARK!
SUDDENLY, AS CLARK LOOKS DOWN FROM THE GREAT HEIGHT...
A GRASS FIRE--SPREADING WITH INCREDIBLE SPEED NEAR THE SMITH FARM! I'LL HAVE TO GET RID OF THIS DUMMY AND BECOME SUPERBOY MYSELF--BEFORE THE BLAZES REACH THOSE HOUSES!
MOMENTS AFTERWARD...
I'LL REMOVE THESE MAGNETIC BANDS, AND LET MY DUMMY FALL INTO THAT THICK PILE OF LEAVES WHERE IT WILL BE WELL HIDDEN! THEN I'LL SWITCH TO SUPERBOY AND FIGHT THAT FIRE!
A GOOD PLAN, SUPERBOY--BUT SOMETIMES FATE INTERFERES WITH THE BEST OF PLANS! SHORTLY AFTER THE BOY OF STEEL LEAVES, A SUDDEN GUST OF WIND SWEEPS THROUGH THE WOOD, AND...
AND, SOME DISTANCE AWAY, AS LANA WATCHES THE REAL SUPERBOY EMERGE FROM THE FOREST...
SOMETHING IMPORTANT MUST HAVE HAPPENED TO CAUSE SUPERBOY TO LEAVE CLARK ALONE NOW! WHAT IF THOSE MARTIANS DECIDE TO EXPERIMENT WITH HIM AGAIN? WE'D BETTER GO AND FIND HIM JUST IN CASE!
MEANWHILE, UNAWARE OF THE INCIDENTS WHICH ARE CONSPIRING AGAINST HIS EFFORTS TO PRESERVE THE SECRET OF HIS IDENTITY, SUPERBOY PONDERS OVER ANOTHER PROBLEM...
NO WATER OR CLOUDS VISIBLE FOR MILES AND MILES--AND A PUFF OF SUPER-BREATH MIGHT SPREAD THE FLAMES. HMM... I MUST PUT OUT THE BLAZE QUICKLY--BUT HOW?
5

THINKING SWIFTLY, SUPERBOY UNLEASHES HIS AMAZING X-RAY VISION...
JUST AS I HOPED--AN UNDERGROUND LAKE! I'LL HAVE TO SLICE AWAY A CHUNK OF LAND AND EXPOSE IT TO VIEW!
I'LL CUT DEEPER AND DEEPER TILL I REACH THAT WATER, AND THEN...
I CAN REST THIS FLAMING CHUNK OF EARTH ON THAT BARE MOUNTAIN TOP!
REDUCING THIS MOUNTAIN IN HEIGHT WILL BENEFIT ALL FUTURE PASSING PLANES--AND I CAN USE THESE HUGE CHUNKS OF ROCKY EARTH!
MOMENTS LATER...
JUST AS PLACING PEBBLES IN A CUP FULL OF WATER WILL CAUSE THE WATER TO OVERFLOW--SO--FILLING THAT UNDERGROUND LAKE WITH HUGE ROCKY CHUNKS CAUSES IT TO OVERFLOW THE FIELDS AND PUT OUT THAT BLAZE!
CLEVER, SUPERBOY--BUT IT LOOKS AS IF YOU'RE BEING OUTSMARTED IN AN EVEN CLEVERER SCHEME...
L-LOOK--A DUMMY SUPERBOY! THAT--THAT MEANS CLARK MUST BE SUPERBOY--AND HE MADE THIS DUMMY SO THAT WE WOULD THINK SUPERBOY WAS WITH HIM WHEN HE WAS FLY ING! THAT WHOLE STORY ABOUT MARTIANS WAS A SCHEME TO SAVE HIS IDENTITY!

A LITTLE LATER, AS SUPERBOY RETURNS TO DESTROY THE DUMMY...
LANA--SHE--FOUND THE DUMMY! GOOD GRIEF! NOW SHE'LL BE MORE CERTAIN THAN EVER THAT CLARK IS SUPERBOY! I--I MUST FIND A WAY TO EXPLAIN IT--BUT HOW?
HOW INDEED? IT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE--YET--IS ANYTHING IMPOSSIBLE TO ONE ENDOWED WITH SUPER- THINKING POWERS?
I HAVE IT! I CAN ACTUALLY USE LANA'S FINDING THAT DUMMY AS A MEANS OF CONVINCING HER THAT CLARK ISN'T SUPERBOY!
HOW CAN THE BOY OF STEEL DO THAT?
A LITTLE LATER, ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF SMALLVILLE...
I'LL TEMPORARILY REPLACE THAT REAL STATUE OF A COLONIAL WAR HERO WITH THIS REPLICA I MADE--THEN FASHION SOME STEEL WIRE SO THIN IT'LL BE ALMOST INVISIBLE.
SOON...
AAAH--THERE'S LANA AT LAST. I KNEW SHE'D PASS HERE ON HER WAY HOME. I'LL JUST LASSO EACH OF HER HEELS WITH THE LOOPS ON THE ENDS OF THESE WIRES, THEN PULL HER IN THIS DIRECTION!
MOMENTS AFTER-WARD...
WHAT? I--I'M WALKING--FASTER AND FASTER--AS IF SOME INVISIBLE FORCE IS GUIDING MY MOVEMENTS!
PULLING EACH WIRE IN TURN, I CAN MANIPULATE HER LIKE A PUPPET!
I--I'M GOING FASTER AND FASTER! IT--IT MUST BE THE MARTIANS IN THAT SPACE SHIP AFTER ALL--TRANSMITTING THEIR POWERS TO ME! I WONDER--THEY MADE ALVIN BURN THINGS WITH HEAT RAYS FROM HIS FINGERS--AND THEY MADE CLARK FLY--WHAT--? WHAT STRANGE POWERS HAVE THEY GIVEN ME?


A SECOND LATER, AS LANA'S OUTSTRETCHED HANDS TOUCH THE STATUE, HER QUESTION IS ANSWERED...
WHAT--THAT STATUE--AS SOON AS I TOUCHED IT--IT WENT UP IN SMOKE!
WHOOSH
NATURALLY--SINCE MY REPLICA IS A THIN COATING OF COLORED CLAY--FILLED WITH POWDERY DUST!
THEY'LL MAKE ME DESTROY EVERYTHING I TOUCH! I--WAIT--THERE'S SUPERBOY! HELP! SUPERBOY! HELP!
AAH--SHE'S SEEN THAT DUMMY OF ME! NOW'S THE TIME FOR ME TO BLOW THAT SPACE SHIP OUT INTO SPACE WITH A PUFF OF SUPER-BREATH!
A MOMENT LATER...
SUPERBOY--WHY DIDN'T YOU--WHAT? YOU'RE SUPERBOY--THEN THAT'S JUST THE DUMMY. YOU--YOU MOVED IT HERE--BUT WHY?
I GUESS I CAN TELL YOU NOW THAT THAT ROCKET SHIP HAS GONE--BUT MAYBE--YOU'D LIKE TO FIGURE IT OUT FOR YOURSELF!
THE MARTIANS WERE ABLE TO TRANSMIT THEIR POWERS TO ALVIN AND CLARK AND ME--AND YOU DIDN'T INTERFERE. IS IT--IS IT BECAUSE YOU WERE AFRAID THEY'D BE ABLE TO HYPNOTIZE YOU INTO DOING WHAT THEY WANTED--AND THEN TAKE OVER THE EARTH?
OF COURSE! THAT MUST BE THE REASON! YOU DIDN'T KNOW WHETHER THEY COULD HYPNOTIZE YOU--SO YOU TOOK NO CHANCES! YOU MADE THAT DUMMY--AND WHEN THEY COULDN'T MAKE THE DUMMY DO WHAT THEY WANTED, THEY THOUGHT YOU WERE IMMUNE TO THEIR POWERS--AND LEFT!
HMM... VERY CLEVER, LANA!
HMM... AND ALL THE TIME I THOUGHT YOU MADE THE DUMMY TO FOOL ME, YOU REALLY MADE IT TO FOOL THEM! GOSH--I SURE WAS SILLY!
WHEW--WHAT A NARROW ESCAPE! NOW I'LL HAVE TO MAKE ANOTHER GIFT FOR THE SMALLVILLE FAIR--BUT IT'S WORTH IT--SINCE THAT SPACE SHIP SAVED THE SECRET OF MY IDENTITY!
THE END.
8

SHORTY
GULP- AM I SORRY I CAME ON THIS TRIP.
THAT STORM CERTAINLY WRECKED OUR SAILBOAT!
LOOK- THERE'S LAND!
HENRY BOLTINOFF
WE WERE SWEPT WAY OUT TO SEA. I WONDER WHERE WE ARE?
WHO CARES, AS LONG AS I'M ON LAND!
NEXT MORNING
LOOK - A SHIP! THEY SPOTTED US! HERE COMES A RESCUE PARTY.
COME ON, SHORTY, GET IN!
NO, THANKS! I'LL STAY HERE. I GET AWFULLY SEASICK!
GMP



HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR ROLLER SKATING

You, Too, Can Be a Champ on Wheels—
If You Know How

ANYONE who has read about the roller derby may have wondered how to become a part of this new sport of racing. "Speed Skating," as the sport is called in official circles, is actually older than the roller derby, and offers opportunities for racing on an amateur level.

After all, professional racing has room for only a few new skaters each year. Besides this, it is a profession that lasts only as long as its participants remain young enough to endure the hardships of professional competition.

Amateur racing, on the other hand, permits a young person to enjoy all the thrills of the sport without neglecting his studies. The sport is highly organized today, with safety features not always found in professional racing.

Young folks who are thinking of entering this sport should, of course, first learn how to skate. Putting this another way, no one who has not thoroughly learned all the fine points of skating should attempt to race until he has. each rink employs attendants who will be glad to introduce you to the elementary points. Once you have mastered them, you may start thinking about entering racing competition.

Under present rules, all National and local racing competitions are skated on twelve-lap tracks—that is, twelve trips around the track to each mile.

The track is usually of hard maple, with two corner flags or markets set at each corner of the track.

For speed skating, only skates which are equipped with maple rolls should be used. These are preferred because of their lightness, and because they provide greater friction on the pumiced maple floor, enabling the skater to "grip" the floor better on the turns. These skates should also be equipped with the free-running type of ball-bearing, for this is the only kind that will withstand the heat generated by high speeds.

For the start of the race, the competitors are lined up at the starting point

his body facing down the track. Skates are positioned at right angles to the line of travel. This gives the greatest amount of traction when the start is made.

Each racer's feet are about 14 inches apart. The knees should be well bent, and the body in that crouch associated with all racing track events.

When the starting gun is heard, the racer makes a springing leap toward the left and a quarter-turn of his body. This brings him into full-face position down the track.

Two different techniques of starting are used. The more popular method is to "run" or sprint on inside edges, driving as hard as possible to gain the first corner post before the other competitors. The name of this run is called the "herring-bone" because if your skates left prints, they would resemble a herring-bone pattern.

The second method is called the "side-run," and is considered more difficult, for it has a tendency to draw the skate toward the left in a curve. If other skaters should also be to the left, the foul of "blocking" would be called on you.

Coasting (called the "corner-roll") is held the entire distance between the two corner markers. At the conclusion of the corner-roll, you must regain speed rapidly, or lose your place. Since the straightaway is dead ahead and slightly to the left, this is the moment when you must use the side-run or sprint.

To pass the man ahead, you cut to the inside of the track. Since there is no possibility of fouling the lead skater

cover the straightaway, but these must be skated together with the rest of the field unless you decide to "break." To "break" is to try to pass the lead skater.

But there are certain precautions you must make before making a break. The most important thing in passing on the straightaway is to make sure that there is enough room beyond to allow you a safe return to the track. Unless you are careful, you face the danger of going wide of the corner, opening the inside of the track to your competitors and giving them the chance to pass you.

Skating the corner takes special care. The first marker should be cleared about two feet out. Any farther out than this and you risk the danger of opening the track to trailing skaters.

In professional skating, a foul benches a skater for a number of minutes. But in amateur skating, a foul is enough to disqualify the racer from the competition altogether. This is how it should be. No true sportsman who loves to race will ever intentionally commit a foul. Fouls dealt with by the referee are pushing, nudging, bumping, crowding, tripping, and similar unsportsmanlike acts.

To qualify for speed skating competition, a candidate must skate 440 yards and one mile within prescribed times which are regulated by the track size. He must also answer certain questions pertinent to speed skating and competition.

Anyone interested in this thrilling new sport can contact the Roller Skating Rink Operators Association, which has

SUPERBOY

The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN WHEN HE WAS A BOY

IT'S A STRANGE DAY IN SMALLVILLE-- FOR EVERY BOY AND GIRL WEARS A **SUPERBOY** COSTUME -- EXCEPT **SUPERBOY HIMSELF!** WHY CLARK KENT ALONE APPEARS IN HIS EVERYDAY CLOTHES WHILE EVERY-ONE ELSE IN TOWN WEARS THE FAMILIAR RED-AND-BLUE SUIT MAKES ONE OF THE MOST PUZZLING AND FASCINATING OF ALL **SUPERBOY** TALES...

THE BOY WITHOUT A SUPER-SUIT

HA-HA! CLARK'S THE ONLY ONE **NOT** WEARING A SUPER-SUIT! I BET I KNOW WHY!

ME, TOO!

ONE EVENING IN SMALLVILLE, A STRANGE FAREWELL OCCURS AS THE KENTS BID A DOUBLE FAREWELL TO THEIR ONLY SON, CLARK...

WE'LL MISS YOU, CLARK. EVERYONE IN TOWN THINKS YOU'RE SPENDING A FEW DAYS AT GRANDPA'S FARM...

...BUT WE KNOW THAT YOU'LL REALLY BE TOURING THE COUNTRY AS **SUPERBOY**-- TO RAISE MONEY FOR CHARITY BY PERFORMING FEATS IN THE LARGEST CITIES!

GOODBYE CL-- I MEAN-- **SUPERBOY!**

A FEW DAYS LATER, **SUPERBOY** RETURNS AND RESUMES HIS DAILY LIFE, CLOAKED IN HIS SECRET IDENTITY AS CLARK KENT...

I MISSED A LOT WHILE I WAS AWAY--BUT I CAN CATCH UP EASILY ENOUGH. WHILE LISTENING TO MISS ADAMS PROCEED WITH THE NEW WORK, I CAN REVIEW THE **OLD** WORK, READING THE TEXT-BOOK AT SUPERSPEED WITH MY X-RAY VISION!

CLARK--PLEASE GET ME SOME PAPER IN THE GENERAL OFFICE.

I DON'T MIND SPENDING HOURS IN CLASS ON WORK THAT I CAN REALLY DO IN SECONDS. IF I WERE **ALWAYS SUPERBOY**, LIFE WOULD BE EMPTY, BUT AS CLARK I CAN SHARE THE SAME EXPERIENCES EVERYONE ELSE HAS.

BUT, NEXT DAY, THE **BOY OF STEEL** MEETS MORE EXCITEMENT AND MYSTERY THAN HE WANTS IN HIS EVERYDAY LIFE AS CLARK KENT, FOR...

I--I DON'T UNDERSTAND! ALL THE KIDS ARE WEARING **SUPER-SUITS!**

AND, A MOMENT LATER, CLARK IS EVEN MORE BEWILDERED, AS...

CLARK KENT! YESTERDAY, I DISTINCTLY TOLD **EVERY-ONE** IN CLASS TO APPEAR TODAY IN A **SUPER**-COSTUME! HAVE YOU AN EXPLANATION?

B-BUT I KNEW NOTHING ABOUT IT. YOU MUST HAVE GIVEN THE ORDER AFTER YOU SENT ME TO THE GENERAL OFFICE!

THAT'S NO EXCUSE! A GOOD STUDENT SHOULD KEEP HIM-SELF POSTED ON WHAT'S HAPPENING IN CLASS WHEN HE'S OUT OF THE ROOM!

SHE--SHE SENT ME OUT HERSELF--IT--IT'S JUST NOT FAIR! AND THAT'S STRANGE--BECAUSE SHE USUALLY IS VERY FAIR! AND ALL THE KIDS LAUGHING--AS IF THEY EXPECTED THIS TO HAPPEN!

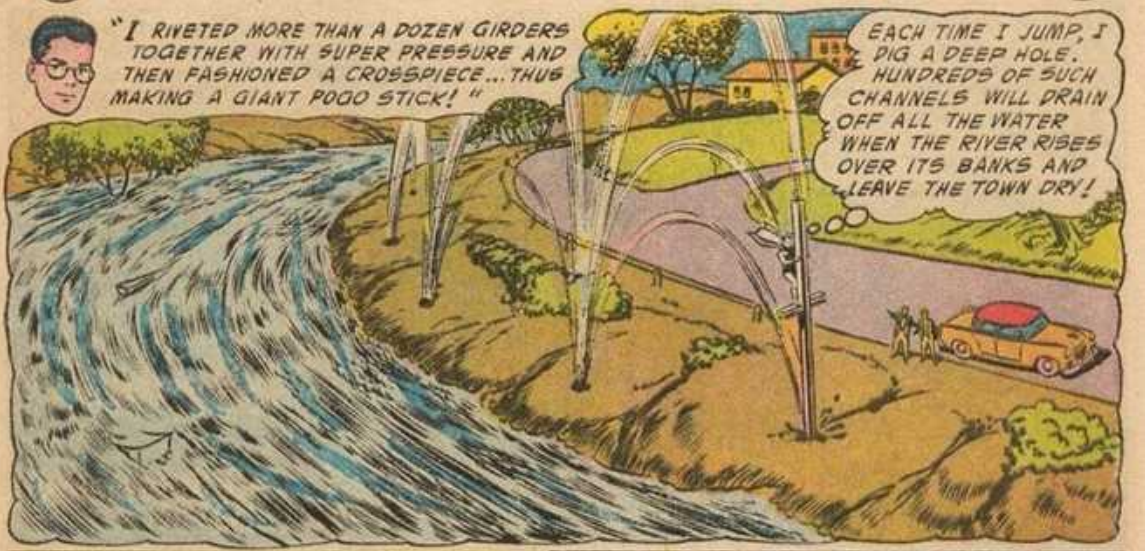
LATER, WHEN CLARK LEAVES SCHOOL, HE IS EVEN MORE PUZZLED, AS...

WHAT--WHAT'S THE IDEA, TOM?

DON'T YOU KNOW, CLARK? IT'S **SUPERBOY DAY!** FOR THE LAST FEW DAYS, WHILE YOU WERE AT YOUR GRAND-FATHER'S FARM, THE TOWN HAS BEEN PLANNING THIS DAY IN HONOR OF WHAT **SUPERBOY** HAS DONE FOR SMALLVILLE!

A MOMENT LATER...
AAH--CLARK--I KNEW I'D FIND YOU HERE! AS MAYOR, I'M IN CHARGE OF SUPERBOY DAY--AND I'VE DECIDED ON A SPECIAL ROLE FOR YOU. I WANT YOU TO REMAIN DRESSED EXACTLY AS YOU ARE--ALL DAY TODAY!
AND AT THE END OF FESTIVITIES TODAY, I WANT YOU TO APPEAR ON THE PLATFORM. YOU'RE GOING TO PLAY A VERY IMPORTANT PART IN THE CEREMONY!
HE--HE EXPECTED TO FIND ME WITHOUT A COSTUME! THEN MISS ADAMS MUST PURPOSELY HAVE SENT ME OUT OF CLASS SO I WOULDN'T HEAR HER ASKING THE OTHERS TO WEAR ONE!
SMALLVILLE
I--I DON'T UNDERSTAND! WHY HAVE I ALONE BEEN SELECTED NOT TO WEAR A COSTUME--AND WHAT VERY IMPORTANT PART CAN THEY BE EXPECTING CLARK KENT TO PLAY IN A FESTIVAL DEVOTED TO SUPERBOY? UNLESS--BUT I--I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT!
SUPERBOY YOUR DAY WILL BE THE MOST UNUSUAL ONE OF YOUR CAREER!
AS CLARK PUZZLES OVER THESE PROBLEMS, HIS SUPER HEARING PICKS UP AN EVEN MORE PUZZLING PIECE OF CONVERSATION...
LOOK! CLARK KENT WITHOUT A COSTUME! HE MUST BE ONE OF THE CLUES!
OF COURSE! AND IF HE'S NOT WEARING A COSTUME WHILE EVERYONE ELSE IS--IT CAN MEAN ONLY ONE THING!
WHAT? ME--A CLUE? TO WHAT? I'D BETTER ASK TOM.
WHAT CLUE WAS THAT BOY TALKING ABOUT, TOM?
OH--OF COURSE! YOU WERE OUT OF TOWN WHEN THE WHOLE THING WAS PLANNED. WELL, THE COMMITTEE IN CHARGE OF SUPERBOY DAY...
...SCATTERED FIVE CLUES AROUND TOWN. EACH ONE HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH SUPERBOY AND SMALLVILLE! WHOEVER GUESSES WHAT EACH CLUE MEANS WINS A TROPHY!

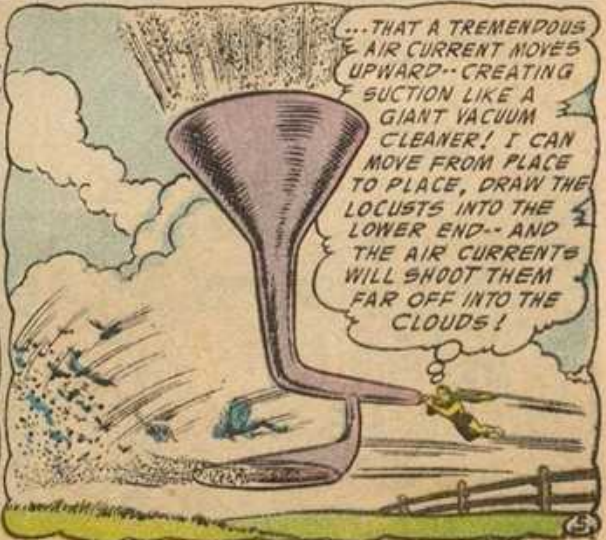
AS TOM AND CLARK WALK ALONG THE STREETS...
THERE! I BET THAT'S ONE OF THE CLUES! I WONDER-- WHAT CAN IT MEAN?
HMM... A CELL ON A PEDESTAL WITH A LITTLE SUPERBOY IN IT. LET'S SEE...
OF COURSE! A CELL--OR CRYPT-- ON A PEDESTAL--WITH A SMALL SUPERBOY! IT MUST COMMEMORATE THE ARRIVAL OF THE INFANT SUPERBOY! IN SMALLVILLE--FROM HIS NATIVE PLANET--KRYPTON! VERY CLEVER!
THE BOY OF STEEL
THAT FLOAT OFFERS NO CLUE--IT'S NOT RELATED TO A FEAT I EVER DID IN SMALLVILLE! AND IF I'M A CLUE-- WHAT CAN IT MEAN? USUALLY, EVERY DAY, ONLY SUPERBOY IS IN COSTUME. TODAY EVERYONE EXCEPT THE REAL SUPERBOY IS WEARING ONE! CAN IT MEAN-- I--I HOPE NOT!
THERE ARE FIVE CLUES ALL TOGETHER! I'VE ALREADY FOUND ONE AND IF I FIND FOUR MORE, THEN I HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT. HOWEVER, IF I FIND ONLY THREE--THAT MEANS I AM A CLUE--AND THEN I'LL HAVE SOME REAL WORRYING TO DO!
HAVE YOU GUESSED WHAT SUPERBOY IS AFRAID OF?
A LITTLE LATER, AS CLARK WALKS THE DECORATED SMALLVILLE STREETS...
THAT PARROT--I BET IT'S A CLUE--AND NOT MANY WILL REALIZE IT! IT'S THE POPULAR CARTOON CHARACTER--POGO PARROT! SOME YEARS AGO, AFTER A CLOUDBURST, THERE WAS A FLASH FLOOD, AND...
SUPERBOY
"SMALLVILLE RIVER WAS RISING ABOVE ITS BANKS, THREATENING TO WIPE OUT THE TOWN..."
THERE'S NO TIME TO BUILD A RETAINING WALL ALONG THE WHOLE RIVER BANK-- MUST DO SOMETHING ELSE. HMM... THAT PILE OF GIRDERS IN THE TOWN JUNKYARD-- IT'S A WEIRD PLAN-- BUT IT WILL WORK!
4

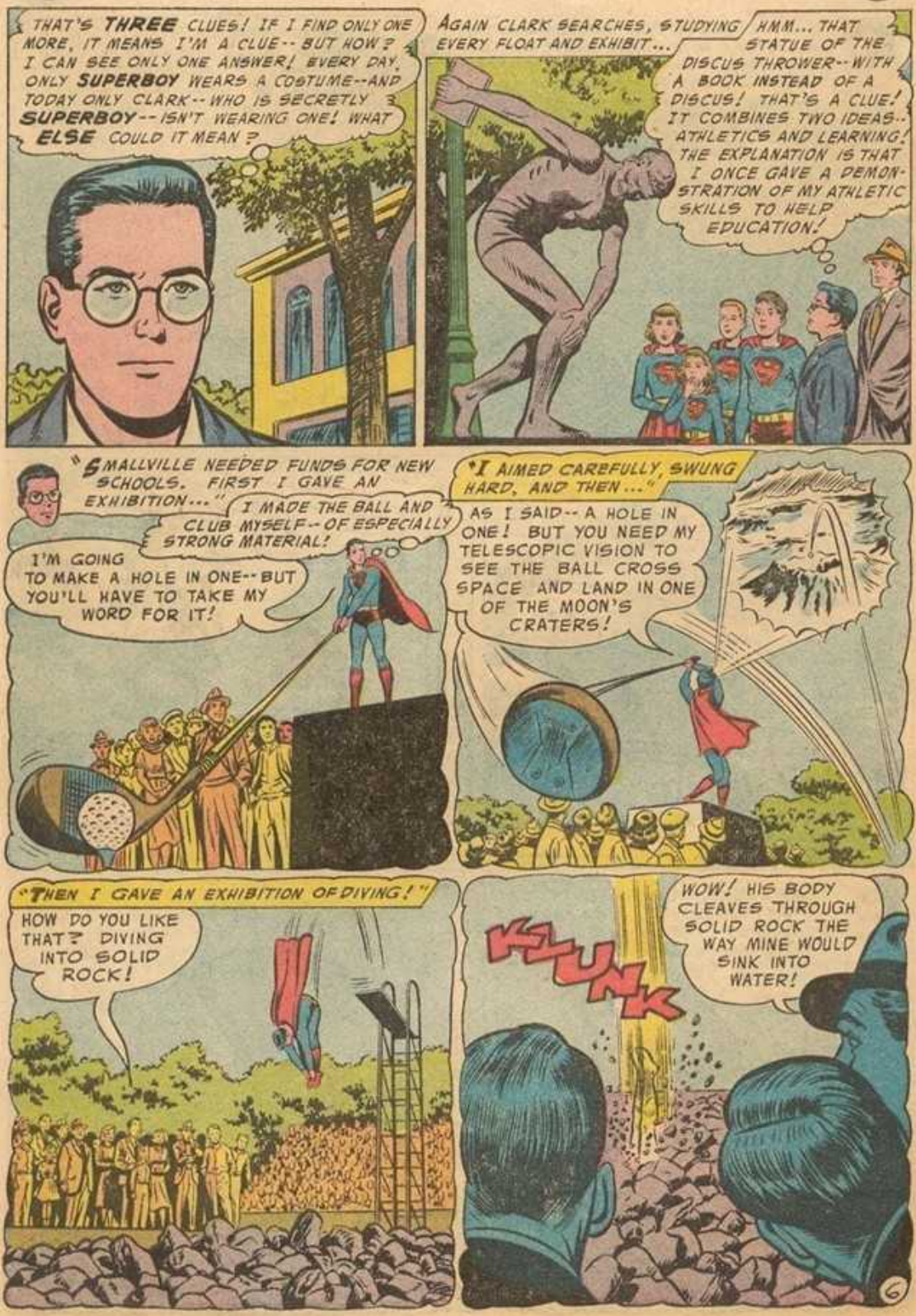

"I RIVETED MORE THAN A DOZEN GIRDERS TOGETHER WITH SUPER PRESSURE AND THEN FASHIONED A CROSSPIECE... THUS MAKING A GIANT POOO STICK!"
EACH TIME I JUMP, I DIG A DEEP HOLE. HUNDREDS OF SUCH CHANNELS WILL DRAIN OFF ALL THE WATER WHEN THE RIVER RISES OVER ITS BANKS AND LEAVE THE TOWN DRY!

CLARK ONCE AGAIN WALKS THE STREETS OF THE TOWN, UNTIL...
HMM... THAT LOOKS LIKE ONE OF THE CLUES! LET ME SEE... THE CLOWNS COULD REPRESENT A CIRCUS-- NO--LAUGHTER--NO--FUN--WAIT--THAT STRIKES A CHORD IN MY MEMORY! FUN-- AND THAT MUSICAL MEASURE--LET'S SEE... MEASURE COULD BE FOOT-- OR YARD--OR...
SUPERBOY

...YES--OF COURSE! AN ELL--A MEASURE OF CLOTH! FUN AND ELL MAKE FUNNEL! I REMEMBER THAT TIME--A HORDE OF LOCUSTS SETTLED OVER SMALLVILLE-- DESTROYING ALL THE CROPS AND LAWNS...

"THERE SEEMED TO BE NO WAY TO GET RID OF THEM WITHOUT ALSO HARMING THE CROPS! THEN I GOT A BRIGHT IDEA AND FASHIONED A HUGE FUNNEL!"
I CAN BLOW INTO THIS THIN PIPE LEADING TO THE BOTTOM OF THE FUNNEL SO HARD...


...THAT A TREMENDOUS AIR CURRENT MOVES UPWARD--CREATING SUCTION LIKE A GIANT VACUUM CLEANER! I CAN MOVE FROM PLACE TO PLACE, DRAW THE LOCUSTS INTO THE LOWER END--AND THE AIR CURRENTS WILL SHOOT THEM FAR OFF INTO THE CLOUDS!


THAT'S THREE CLUES! IF I FIND ONLY ONE MORE, IT MEANS I'M A CLUE-- BUT HOW? I CAN SEE ONLY ONE ANSWER! EVERY DAY, ONLY SUPERBOY WEARS A COSTUME--AND TODAY ONLY CLARK--WHO IS SECRETLY SUPERBOY--ISN'T WEARING ONE! WHAT ELSE COULD IT MEAN?
AGAIN CLARK SEARCHES, STUDYING EVERY FLOAT AND EXHIBIT...
HMM... THAT STATUE OF THE DISCUS THROWER--WITH A BOOK INSTEAD OF A DISCUS! THAT'S A CLUE! IT COMBINES TWO IDEAS--ATHLETICS AND LEARNING! THE EXPLANATION IS THAT I ONCE GAVE A DEMONSTRATION OF MY ATHLETIC SKILLS TO HELP EDUCATION!
"SMALLVILLE NEEDED FUNDS FOR NEW SCHOOLS. FIRST I GAVE AN EXHIBITION..."
I MADE THE BALL AND CLUB MYSELF--OF ESPECIALLY STRONG MATERIAL!
I'M GOING TO MAKE A HOLE IN ONE--BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE MY WORD FOR IT!
"I AIMED CAREFULLY, SWUNG HARD, AND THEN..."
AS I SAID--A HOLE IN ONE! BUT YOU NEED MY TELESCOPIC VISION TO SEE THE BALL CROSS SPACE AND LAND IN ONE OF THE MOON'S CRATERS!
"THEN I GAVE AN EXHIBITION OF DIVING!"
HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT? DIVING INTO SOLID ROCK!
KLUNK
WOW! HIS BODY CLEAVES THROUGH SOLID ROCK THE WAY MINE WOULD SINK INTO WATER!

"AND FINALLY, I PERFORMED A FEAT OF SUPER-SWIMMING!"
HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT? THE HEAT OF HIS X-RAY VISION TURNS THAT STATUE INTO MOLTEN LAVA--AND HE'S SWIMMING IN WHAT WAS SOLID ROCK! IT'S SURE WORTH THE PRICE OF ADMISSION TO SEE THIS!
THE WHOLE TOWN IS FILLED WITH MEMENTOS OF MY EXPLOITS--YET MOST OF THESE OTHERS ARE TOO OBVIOUS TO BE CLUES! WHOEVER PLANNED THE CLUES SURELY WAS CLEVER--MUCH TOO CLEVER, I'M AFRAID! I JUST HOPE I FIND ANOTHER!
YET, AFTER A LENGTHY AND DETERMINED SEARCH...
LOOK! CLARK KENT--THE ONLY BOY IN SMALLVILLE NOT IN COSTUME! THAT'S ONE OF THE CLUES--AND I KNOW JUST WHAT IT MEANS! IT'S THE EASIEST ONE!
I GUESS I AM THE FIFTH CLUE! NO OTHER EXHIBIT POSSIBLY COULD BE! SOMEONE ON THE COMMITTEE MUST HAVE FERRETED OUT THE SECRET OF MY IDENTITY!
BE AT SMALLVILLE SQUARE AT FIVE FOR HIGH SPOT OF SUPERBOY DAY FESTIVAL
AFTER ALL, I'VE BEEN LIVING IN SMALLVILLE ALL MY LIFE--AND I GUESS THE TIME HAD TO COME WHEN SOMEONE WOULD GUESS MY SECRET... ALTHOUGH I DON'T KNOW HOW I SLIPPED UP! I'LL JUST HAVE TO FACE THE MUSIC!
SO, AS THE DAY'S FESTIVITIES END, CLARK WALKS TOWARD A PLATFORM AROUND WHICH ARE GATHERED ALL THE SMALLVILLE CITIZENS...
HERE COMES CLARK! WHAT A SURPRISE HE'S IN FOR!
AAAH--CLARK--AT LAST! NOW COMES THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF SUPERBOY DAY!
NATURALLY--IF THEY KNOW I'M SUPERBOY, I MUST BE IMPORTANT! WHY ELSE SHOULD CLARK KENT BE THE HIGH SPOT OF THE DAY?
WEARILY, CLARK MOUNTS THE STEPS, AND THEN...
AND NOW, CLARK--WOULD YOU MIND REMOVING YOUR JACKET?
HMM... I KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT NEXT. HE'LL ASK ME TO REMOVE MY SHIRT. IF I DO, THEY'LL SEE THE REAL SUPERBOY COSTUME--AND IF I DON'T, THEY'LL ALL KNOW WHY!
7

HOWEVER, WHEN CLARK HANDS THE MAYOR HIS JACKET...
THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF OUR FESTIVAL IS RIGHT HERE IN CLARK'S JACKET! I WONDER HOW MANY OF YOU GUESSED THE CLUE? I'LL JUST REACH INSIDE, CUT OPEN THE LINING...
HERE IT IS--THE LETTER OF THANKS YOU ALL SIGNED--OUR THANKS TO SUPERBOY FOR ALL HE'S DONE TO SMALLVILLE! I'LL GIVE IT TO HIM WHEN I SEE HIM NEXT--AND NOW--THANKS TO YOU, CLARK--FOR PROVIDING US WITH THE PERFECT HIDING PLACE FOR THIS LEAD-LINED ENVELOPE!
SUPERBOY
VILLE SALUTES YOU

WE WANTED THIS TO BE A SURPRISE TO SUPERBOY! NO DOUBT HE'S IN THE AUDIENCE--ONE OF MANY IN SUPERBOY COSTUMES! THIS TESTIMONIAL WAS SIGNED WHILE YOU WERE AWAY AT YOUR GRANDFATHER'S FARM--AND WE NEEDED A PLACE TO HIDE IT WHERE SUPERBOY'S X-RAY VISION WOULDN'T ACCIDENTALLY FIND IT!
BECAUSE YOU ARE SUPERBOY'S CLOSEST FRIEND, WE DECIDED YOU WOULD BE INELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONTEST. WE KNEW YOU WOULDN'T MIND IF WE CHOSE YOUR JACKET AS THE HIDING PLACE FOR THE TESTIMONIAL--AND YOU AS A CLUE! WE DIDN'T TELL YOU--FOR FEAR YOU MIGHT UNWITTINGLY GIVE IT AWAY! YOU MAY HAVE BEEN PUZZLED--BUT I BET MANY OTHERS...

...FIGURED OUT WHY YOU ALONE DIDN'T WEAR A COSTUME! WE'VE ALSO SELECTED YOU AS JUDGE OF THE SUPERBOY DAY CONTEST. HERE ARE THE ANSWERS--AND THE CONTEST SUBMISSIONS!
I KNOW ALL THE ANSWERS AND THANK GOODNESS THE FIFTH ONE IS NOT WHAT I FEARED!
THAT EVENING, AS CLARK ONCE AGAIN WEARS A SUPERBOY COSTUME IN THE PRIVACY OF HIS OWN HOME...
I HOPE YOU'LL FORGIVE US, CLARK. THEY ASKED US TO PUT THE ENVELOPE IN YOUR JACKET WHILE YOU WERE AWAY--AND NOT TO TELL YOU--FOR FEAR SUPERBOY WOULD FIND OUT!
HE CERTAINLY WOULD--IF CLARK KNEW, BUT I'M GLAD WE'RE STILL THE ONLY ONES AWARE OF THAT!
THE END.